

Management (DEM), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

2. DCM is planning to use ADID wetland evaluation methods in all coastal counties. The appropriate agencies would expand this methodology in the remaining counties in the APES region.
3. Other methods that comprehensively identify and evaluate wetlands should be considered.

Evaluation Method

Effectiveness of ADID or other wetland identification and evaluation programs would be assessed to determine the following: 1) whether all wetlands in the region were accurately mapped and 2) whether all wetland functions were considered.

Costs and Economic Considerations

The cost to DCM and DEM for evaluating the ADID project in Carteret County is estimated to be \$50,000. Expanded ADID efforts would be funded through federal grants. The economic impact of implementing ADID region-wide is contingent on how the ADID program is designed and how resulting data and maps are used by state, federal, and local governments. As a general statement, wetlands identification and mapping at the county and regional scale can help reduce landowners' uncertainty about the likelihood of receiving permits for development and would allow local governments more latitude in planning for growth that does not degrade important ecological resources.

Funding Strategy

To evaluate the existing ADID project, DCM would acquire funding from Section 309 of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) supplied by NOAA. DCM would also apply for an additional \$70,000 from CZMA Section 309 to fund expected local projects within Carteret County.